(a) Regional Centres of NIMH at Bombay; Calcutta and New Delhi.

(b) Regional Centres of NIHH at Calcutta New Delhi; Hyderabad and State collaborated centres at Bhubaneshwar and Training centre for the Adult-Deaf at Hyderabad.

There is also a proposal to set up two regional centres by each National Institute under Ministry of Welfare in the current financial year.

There is a proposal to set up National Institute for the Multiple handicapped at Madras.

In addition, the following National Institutes are functioning under the administrative control of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare:—

(a) All India Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation; Bombay; (AIIPMR)

(b) All India Institute of Speech and Hearing; Mysore. (AIISH)

(c) National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences Bangalore. (NIMHANS)

Out of the four institutions working in the area of Orthopaedically Handicapped; namely IPH; New Delhi; NIRTAR; Cuttack; NIOH; Calcutta; and AIIPMR, Bombay; provide facilities for reconstructive surgery also. All the four organisations; however; provide services in Physiotherapy and Occupational therapy They also fit aids and appliances to the orthopaedically handicapped.

So far; medical assistance to orthopaedically handicapped people is concerned; that is the responsibility of various hospitals run by Central Government/State Governments/local authorities; charitable organisations; including NGOs.

Agricultural Subsidies used by manufactures of inputs

*455. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that subsidies categorised as agricultural often reach only to the manufacturers of inputs.

(b) if so, the types of subsidies which reach the said manufacturers; and

(c) the reason for calling them agricultural subsidies?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) to (c) The subsidy admissible under the Retention Pricing Scheme for Urea is intended to make Urea available to farmers at an uniform price of Rs. 3320 per tonne throughout the country even though its cost of production and of import is higher. In addition, a scheme of providing concession on sale of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers to the farmers is also being implemented w.e.f. Rabi 1992-93 to cushion the impact of the high prices of these fertilisers after decontrol.

Under crop development programmes, incentive is provided for use of certified/quality seeds, specified agricultural implements and plant protection equipments, sprinklers and drips etc., as part of transfer of technology with a view to making these inputs available to farmers at a cost lower than the cost of production. States/UTs may also be giving subsidies on other inputs such as irrigation and electricity.

Agricultural subsidies are aimed at benefitting the farmers by encouraging the use of these inputs for increasing agricultural production.

Accredited institution in Karnataka under National Open School

*456. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students enrolled under National Open School (NOS) during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 for Secondary and Senior Secondary courses;

(b) which are the accredited institutions in Karnataka for academic courses and vocational courses;

(c) whether the accredited institutions are voluntary organisations or Government institutions; and

(d) what requirements are to be fulfilled by the Institution to get accredition for academic and technical courses in case they are voluntary institutions?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a)3 to (d) The number of students enrolled by the National Open School during the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 for its secondary and senior secondary course was:

Year	*Secondary*	*Senior Secondary*
1992—93	31375	20932
1993—94	35098	25777
1994—95	36766	29054

There are two Accredited Institutions for Academic Courses and one Accredited Vocational Institution functioning in Karnataka as below:

Accredited Institutions for Academic courses in Karnataka

(i) Iyer High School, HMT Road, Mathikere, Bangalore.

(ii) Don Bosco Academy, Sutgatti, Post: Navanagar, Hubli.

Accredited Institution for Vocational Courses in Karnataka

(i) Shramik Vidyapeeth, No. 1067/1, Vanivilasa Road, Mysore.

The Accredited Institutions can be either Government Institutions or voluntary organisations.

Requirement fixed by National Open School for selecting Accredited Institutions for Academic Courses includes recognition of the institution, minimum levels of enrolments in classes VI to XII, employment of post-graduate/trained graduate teachers and provision of infrastructural facilities like all weather classrooms, laboratories and library etc.

In case of the vocational stream, the addequacy of the experience of instructors and infrastructural facilities available with the institution for conducting the concerned vocational course etc. are kept in view while granting accrediation.

Stepping up of Public investment

457. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether public investment to accelerate development of supportive infrastructure for agriculture will be stepped up;

(b) if so, in what manner and the steps taken in this regard; and

(c) the new initiative being taken in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) to (c) During the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97), significant level of investment has been proposed in favour of areas in Agriculture and Allied Activities like horticulture, fisheries, rainfed farming, creation of infrastructure for minor irrigation, post-harvest management, etc. In order to encourage investment in infrastructure for agriculture, it is proposed to establish a new Rural Infrastructural Development Fund within the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). This fund will provide loans to State Governments and State owned Corporations for completing the on-going projects relating to medium and minor irrigation, soil conservation, watershed management and other forms of rural infrastructure.